

Input for Post-Audit of Finished CIA Intelligence *

From: NIO/USSR-EE *B*

Periodic Publications:

CIWR: Although high-level consumers are said periodically to "rediscover" the Weekly, it seems to serve them as a rapid scan mental checklist rather than an analytic stimulus. Working level consumers rarely really read the Weekly; occasionally they may scan the piece on an active area they haven't had a chance to follow during the week.

OCI Staff Notes/ Soviet East European Developments: This is widely considered the most useful regular pub by working level experts around the community, and we have heard that on occasion its pieces are gisted or serve as background for higher level policy consumers.

However, we have also heard that consumers are disappointed at the widely varied quality of daily books. In part this is the natural function of ~~the~~ there being more to analyze on some days than others. In part, however, it seems to reflect lack of time, after quick-response reportorial writing demands, for the minimal research and considerable thought and analysis required for the "chewy" pieces consumers prefer.

Aperiodic Publications January-June 1974:

A highly sensitive, limited distribution OPR paper (long and highly analytical) got rave reviews all the way up its limited readership, including Kissinger.

The NSC Staff was very complimentary about tailored remarks on Ponomarev done by OCI for a May 1974 meeting of Ponomarev with President Nixon. (OCI/IM 2 May 1974 "Significance of the Ponomarev Delegation Visit")

An OER series of questions and answers on Technology Transfer to the USSR, tailored to the requirements of Armitage and Kovner at State, was very useful to EUR/SOV there and well received by policy users also at Treasury and elsewhere. (OER/IM 13 May 1974, "The Impact of Technology Transfer on the USSR.")

* Note: No special survey of consumers was undertaken for specific purposes of this post-audit. We collect and ask for response as we go along. In general, consumers feel that increased telephone and face to face dialogue would improve the focus of CIA publications for policy users.